

Statutory Schedule for Non-Partisan Municipal Elections

Deadlines & Citations

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Pursuant to the Uniform Non-Partisan Elections Law N.J.S.A. 40:45-5, et seq.

March 13- April 11

Notice of Election

Notice of election to be published, stating date of election, voting hours and a list of polling places.¹
N.J.S.A. 19:12-7

March 18

Nomination Petition Deadline

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| (a) Petitions of Nomination ² | N.J.S.A. 40:45-8 |
| (b) Candidates' Oath and Acceptance of Nomination (annexed to petition) | N.J.S.A. 40:45-8 |
| (c) Campaign Manager's Oath (annexed to petition) | N.J.S.A. 40:45-8 |
| (d) Application for Designation (6 words) (included in petition) | N.J.S.A. 40:45-10 |
| (e) Applications for bracketing of Candidates (included in petition) | N.J.S.A. 40:45-10 |
| (f) Identification (candidates with same name) | N.J.S.A. 40:45-14 |

March 21

Publish Notice – Absentee Ballot Availability

Notice to persons desiring absentee ballots, including civilian and persons in military service or patients in veterans hospitals and to their relatives and friends, as specified in 19:57-6; notice to be published in at least one newspaper and also in a display advertisement.
N.J.S.A. 19:57-7

March 22

Filing Deadline for Objections to Petitions

Last Day to file written objections.
N.J.S.A. 19:13-10

March 24

Deadline to Amend Defective Petition

(No later than 48 days before an election)

Last day for defects in petitions to be corrected.
N.J.S.A. 40:45-9

Signatures may not be added after the last day for filing of original petition

March 26*

Notice of Ballot Draw

Two day notice to candidates by registered mail of date, time and place for drawing for position on ballot.
N.J.S.A. 40:45-12

March 29*

Ballot Draw

Drawing for position on ballot held at Municipal Clerks office. As soon as practicable thereafter the Municipal Clerks shall have the Official Ballot ready for the printer.
N.J.S.A. 40:45-12

¹Reminder: Certification of suggested polling places must be sent by the Municipal Clerks to County Board of Elections on or before April 1st. N.J.S.A.19:8-2

²Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) to be notified of eligible candidates by Municipal Clerk.
N.J.S.A. 40:45-8

* There is no specific deadline in the statute for ballot draw. NOTE: This is a suggested date to assure printing of the ballot.

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March 30 - April 8

Publication of Candidates' Names

(Within 10 days after filing deadline)

Names of candidates as they appear on ballot to be published once in each of two newspapers having circulation in the municipality and published in the State of New Jersey.

N.J.S.A. 40:45-13

April 1

Mailing of Absentee Ballots

Military Service Absentee and Civilian absentee ballots to be mailed by County Clerk as soon as practicable after 40th (April 1) day before election.

N.J.S.A. 19:57-11

April 12

Voter Registration Deadline

Last day for voters to register.

N.J.S.A. 19:31-6

April 27

Deadline for Filing of Challenger Credentials

(Second Tuesday preceding election)

Last day to file with County Board of Elections, names of two challengers for each candidate per district. Generally, only one may remain in polling place at any one time.

N.J.S.A. 19:7-3

April 30

Deadline for Filing of Vacancy by Committee for Bracketed Candidates

(No less than 10 days)

When several candidates for the Office of Commissioner (in non-partisan Municipalities where such office exists) petition for bracketing with the same slogan, they may file with the Municipal Clerk the names of three persons as a Committee on Vacancies.

N.J.S.A. 40:45-10.1

May 4

Absentee Ballot Applications by Mail

(Not less than 7 days prior to election)

Last day to receive mail applications for military service and civilian absentee ballots. At any time not less than seven days prior to an election, a military service or civilian absentee voter may apply to the county clerk for an absentee ballot.

N.J.S.A. 19:57-4, N.J.S.A. 19:57-6

May 5

Deadline for Mailing Sample Ballot

On or before noon on Wednesday preceding election, mail sample ballot.

N.J.S.A. 19:14-25

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May 10

Deadline for Civilian Absentee Ballot Application in Person

(On any day up to 3:00 p.m. on the day before the election)

Civilian absentee voters who fail to apply in writing for an absentee ballot seven days prior to the election (May 4th) may apply in person, or by authorized messenger, to the County Clerk on any day up to 3:00 p.m. on the day before election.

N.J.S.A. 19:57-4

May 10

Delivery of Ballot and Polling Place Supplies

(On the day preceding the election)

Ballots, ballot boxes, keys and other equipment and supplies delivered to District Boards.

N.J.S.A. 19:14-35

May 11

Election Day

N.J.S.A. 40:45-7

Election results certificates, completed by District Boards, shall be delivered to Municipal Clerks, County Clerks and Superintendents as required.

N.J.S.A. 40:45-16

May 12

Canvass by Municipal Clerk

Municipal Clerk certifies election results, the public may be present.

N.J.S.A. 19:40:45-16

July 1

Commencement of Term

Terms of office commence unless otherwise provided by law

N.J.S.A. 40:45-17